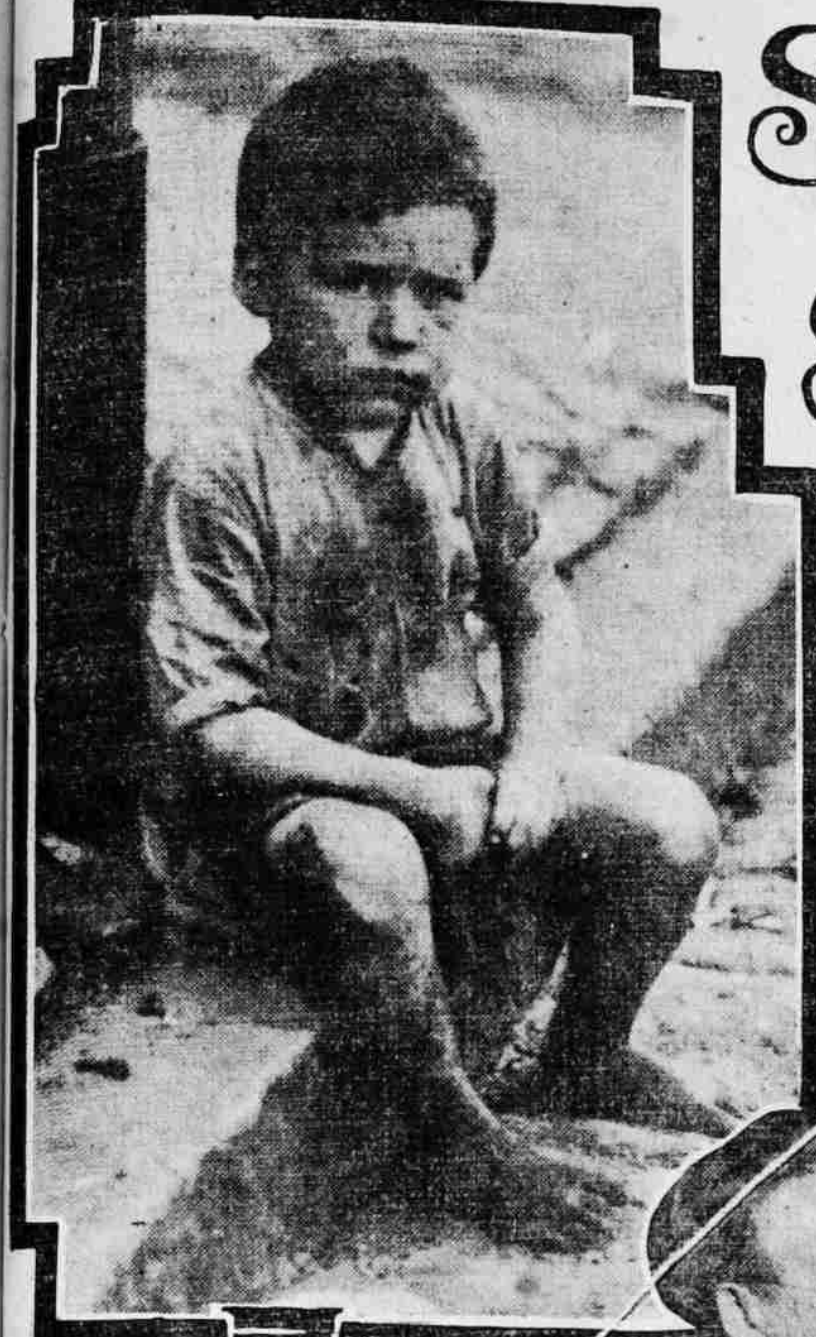


# SPARE THE ROD AND SAVE THE CHILD

Boys Feel It Is Their Common Lot to Be Spanked a Certain Amount, and It Has Not the Corrective Effect as Mental Chastisement



GERHARD SISTERS PHOTO

Spare the rod and safeguard the coming generation. Don't spank the erring youngster but subject him to mental punishment.

This is the advice of physicians and neurologists who have devoted much time to the consideration of childish waywardness and who have decided the "rod" must be abandoned.

Physicians who have spent much time in the study of this problem declare that physical punishment may wreck the youngster's nervous system, while mental punishment is much more effective.

The punishment must fit the crime, scientists say. If bad little Johnnie locks the cat in the ice cooler and then forgets the animal's detention, the best thing to do with little Johnnie is to put him in a dark closet and hold him a prisoner there until he realizes the enormity of his crime.

If the mischievous youngster is unkind to other animals, annoys his child companions, steals from peddlers or in the most extreme of cases uses modified profanity, the best corrective treatment is to send him to bed without his regular dinner. He is not to go to bed hungry but with sufficient appetite to stimulate his mind into consideration of his wrongdoing. That children do not do wrong intentionally but perhaps through impulse, has prompted physicians to request that real corporal punishment be discontinued.

It has no corrective effect, but rather breeds mutiny, it is argued. All physicians are agreed that a child subjected to any unusual physical punishment may be made a wreck for life because of the effect of chastisement on the nervous system.

The errors of childhood are due to mental derangements and therefore are mental diseases punishable by mental chastisement.

The application of the rod, slipper or the hand are rarely effective. Usually they result in a sullenness that is almost impossible to correct in future years.

The medico-psychologists contend that confinement is one of the greatest punishments a human can suffer. In the child it results as a lack of companionship, while in an adult its brunt is the lack of an intelligent person with whom to converse.

Children, it is noted, suffer from being deprived of play-fellows, and this lack of comrades is considered the most painful of their experiences.

The happy cry of their companions, gaily dashing about the streets in perfect freedom, is the one thing that may convince a youth that he has done wrong and is suffering according to his guilty action.

**DEPRIVATION GREATEST CHILDHOOD PUNISHMENT.**

A physical demonstration results in a case of revolt, so that the entire punishment must rely on deprivation.

In many wealthy homes today, the chief sport of youth is swimming. You may tell a lad he cannot go to swimming or to the picture show and you will arouse nothing but indifference, but when you mention that he will not receive money with which to go swimming, you have struck a real human cord that is a key to the boy's nature.

In finding that he loves to swim, the boy incidentally has discovered that all of his waywardness is caused by a lack of the great opportunities he seeks.

The real boy that is to become great in his age may pass up his present desires—you may find him in the garden looking toward the family well after planting a crop of time other youths are out fishing—that is the real boy that has practical ambition, one who would not be a sufferer from the

## Application of the rod.

By his interest in farming he displays a worthy interest in his home and parents, and it is seldom necessary to correct such a youth for from the beginning he is demonstrating both business ability and his love of home. If encouraged in this work he may expect a great future as of use to his parents in his youth, as well as of great value to him upon reaching his majority.

It is held wrong by physicians to correct such energetic youths by physical punishment, for their tendency is to do what is right and their only failings are ones growing from the enthusiasm of youth. There are, however, children who are in need of more severe correction. They do wrong for the mere fact that the deed is wrong and are inclined to repeat their delinquency.

For a boy to throw a snowball at a high silk hat, call out after a bashful young man taking a girl out for the first time, to arrange a pocketbook stuffed with grass in a prominent place on the sidewalk, or to annoy any man who has an inherent grudge against children, is but natural.

Scientists maintain that to subject such a child to physical punishment is to controvert nature. Such children must be taught the enormity of their crime before they are given punishment. In many cases it is often necessary for the parents to find if the children themselves or the complaining persons are to blame.

Even if the youths are found guilty it is wise to punish them by gentle but persistent means, the doctors say. A boy is most unresponsive to physical correction. An application of the strap or of a slipper renders him abusive and makes him revolt and end in destroying his character.

With a girl the treatment is different, for to chastise her is a disgrace, while in whipping a boy a natural duty has been done, for it is the theory of parents in general that a boy needs a good spanking occasionally. With a girl such treatment has an opposite effect. It practically breaks her spirit and makes her an outcast forever. The girl more than anyone recognizes the helplessness of her position.

when she is being chastised, and for this reason more than ever resists it.

## BOYS EXPECT TO BE SPANKED.

Boys feel it is their common lot to be spanked, and accept their chastisement for this reason.

That any unreasonable whipping of boys prompts them to lie has been found true by psychologists in the majority of cases. A boy is requested to tell the truth with the positive knowledge that if he does lie he is to be spanked for it, while if he doesn't lie he is to face some sort of an eternal punishment with which he is not familiar. Not being much familiar with the future, and being a bit concerned about his physical welfare, especially where the safety of his person against the application of a slipper is concerned, the boy naturally lies, scientists say.

It is more natural for him to tell a falsehood than to accept the impending punishment, the psychologists declare. Boys can be scientifically regulated if they have no fear of their parents, and are urged to tell the truth under promise of immunity. To force them to confess under duress is but to make liars of them, the knowing psychologists add. Under their direction parents of the present day are inclined to support their children in most of their pranks.

It used to be the custom of a father to hear the complaint of a neighbor and spank the youth without even hearing his side of the case. This created two forms of war—there was reprisal against the neighbor that showed itself in a practical manner not long afterward, while a hatred of the parent was engendered. Such unreasonable chastisement—unreasonable in that it is performed before both



GERHARD SISTERS PHOTO

boys knocked a three-bagger or a home run, and shows more interest in the nature of the play than in the nominal damage. If Mr. Jones, who more than likely is an old crank, opposed in particular to baseball and in general to children, makes a formal complaint, more than likely he receives more criticism than satisfaction. The proud father of the boy batsman more than likely will tell Jones to mind his own business and leave the

## EDUCATION IS NOT ESSENTIAL TO PREACHER

The Mountain Baptists, as they are called, are in the ascendancy here, only a few other church organizations being maintained in Dickinson County.

There are two branches, or more properly factions, of these people, one known as "Hard Shells," the other "Soft Shells." They first believe in absolute predestination—of all things, some say, but generally it is not made so broad and sweeping—the other that all have a chance for salvation, but that it cannot be obtained by works; it is only a favor to the saved.

This theory seems to lead up to the same idea that is entertained by the predestinarians, though the two factions of the church make a great show of differing widely upon this point. This question was agitated in the year 1895 and the result was a division in the church, the predestinarian branch calling themselves "The Regular Primitive Baptists," and the free salvationists simply "The Primitive Baptists."

These people deny that education is necessary to the success of the minister in his calling; in fact, the ministers rather rejoice that they are not educated.

Some extracts from sermons recently preached from sermons read in this connection. Both factions are represented in these extracts:

"I know that there has been a change in me, but whether of God or not, I do not know."

"The time shall come when the wolf, the lion and the lamb shall lie down to sleep together."

"It is not us that preach, but it is the Lord through us."

My text is a big one, and I am not

children to themselves.

Then Johnnie will be told to play in his own backyard and let the head of the family know if old Jones interferes with him, and the matter will be closed.

All of which shows that children are being treated more considerately than ever before and childhood actually is becoming denatured—that is the spanking is being taken out of it. Some children need punishment, but it is now an established fact that physical punishment makes anarchists of children.

There is no youngster that understands why he is being punished.

able to handle it."

"Time has got among God's ministers, so that they're almost afraid of each other."

"Straight is the gate and broad is the way that leads to everlasting life."

"Time won't submit us to come together very often."

"My loving congregation, when I was under conviction—just a boy—my father sent me after the cow in the woods, and when I found her I tried to drive her the wrong way, but before the Lord, the cow had more sense than I did, and she struck a bee-line toward home, and I followed her."

"We would ask you, Lord, to bless a portion of the bread, and also of the wine."

## The Ideal Bathroom.

With the advent of summer, the bathroom becomes the most important feature of home comfort. If it is fresh, attractive and daintily appointed it is a most grateful retreat after a hot shopping trip downtown or a long day's work at the office. The wise housekeeper spends much thought and care on the furnishing and decoration of her bathroom and sees to it, in addition, that there is never any lack of freshly folded towels and washcloths, of the various kinds of soap, and of that indispensable summer comfort, talcum powder in a generous shaker.

White paint and white woodwork are most attractive in the bathroom—unless one is blessed with a luxurious white tiled and white enameled room such as the modern apartment houses provide

**T**OP left—Boy who has been whipped. Note the defiant look in his face. At the extreme right—Lad who has not been whipped. The look on his face indicates he will grow into a good, kind-hearted man. Middle row—Father teaching son his lesson without use of rod, and administering an old-time spanking. Below—Boy smoking his first cigarette. His pose indicates he feels himself a man already.

ished, the doctors say, but all children know they are being whipped because they have been discovered in the act. Instinct teaches not to be caught, or if apprehended in the act, to prove such an alibi as to clear themselves.

"My dad gave me a lickin'," boys say with a bit of sheepish pride nowadays. The punishment is passed and forgotten with that declaration.

The youngster who is deprived of his clothing and given female attire is less anxious to brag about it, while the boy who has lost his dearest possession is most punished of all.

In the present day fathers give their sons such valuable possessions as bicycles, money, etc., and when the youths are in need of correction, the effect in behalf of good behavior is immediate. Many persons, doctors say, drive their children into crime by beating them, while mental correction only is necessary.

The rod must be spared to save the child.

## THE IDEAL BATHROOM.

For their occupants. There should always be a breeze blowing the white curtain at the bathroom window, in summer time; and the shaded bathroom, with blinds half bowed outside, or an awning let down, is much more grateful to the warm and weary seeker of a cool plunge than a room into which the sun pours blindingly. A growing plant on the window sill will add to the cool suggestion of the bathroom, and in summer the floor covering may be taken up and a blue and white rag rug laid before the tub.

Hand drawn linen shades are charming in bathroom windows. Such windows are usually small and set rather high in the wall, so such a shade need not be very large. It may be hung with loops of tape to an ordinary brass window rod and should hang flat against the window opening, the drawwork or outwork border running across the lower edge above a deep hem. Hand embroidered and initialed towels give a suggestion of luxury and distinction and the housekeeper can do the simple embroidery very easily and quickly in odd moments. But whatever the kind of towels, be sure there are always a-plenty. There are few things more maddening than to be all ready to step into a bath and then discover that one must dress and make a trip to the linen closet for towels and washcloth.

## The Hatchet.

The hatchet entered politics 'Way back near 1736. It made George famous in a day. They use it now another way. —Pittsburg Post.